

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Inventory Completion for Native American Human Remains and Associated Funerary Objects from the State of Texas in the Possession of The Fort Hood Archeological Laboratory, Ft. Hood, TX

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given in accordance with provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3003(d), of the completion of the inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects in the curation facility of the Directorate of Public Works at Fort Hood, TX from five sites in the state of Texas.

A detailed inventory and assessment of these remains has been made by the staff archeologist at Fort Hood in consultation with representatives of the Comanche Tribe of Oklahoma and the Tonkawa tribe of Oklahoma. Copies of this inventory have also been sent to the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma, the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, the Caddo Indian Tribe of Oklahoma and the Kiowa Tribe.

The partial and fragmentary human remains of 48 individuals were recovered in 1985 from a vandalized burial ground at Javalina shelter in Bell County, Texas. A total of 1,214 bones and fragments were recovered from the surface where they had been discarded by vandals. Inventory and examination of the remains established that the partial remains of 20 adults, ten adolescents, nine children and nine infants were present. Sex of the remains could not be determined. No known individuals were identified. Artifacts recovered from the site with the remains included a flake of obsidian and debitage of local cherts.

This site has been identified as being within the Comanche's traditional occupation area based on the abnormal number of juvenile remains, suggesting a historical disease epidemic, evidence of access to obsidian, the Comanche occupation of Central Texas in historic times, and consultation with the Comanche Tribe. Based on the above mentioned information, officials of the Fort Hood Archeological Laboratory have determined that, pursuant to 25U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these human remains and associated funerary objects and the Comanche Tribe. Officials of the Fort Hood Archeological Laboratory have also determined that the artifacts are reasonably believed to have been placed with individual human remains either at the time of death or later as a part of a death rite or ceremony of a culture, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (3)(A).

On November 22, 1991 the above human remains and associated funerary objects were repatriated to the Reverend John Pahdocony of the Comanche Cemetery Committee on behalf of the Comanche Tribal Council.

The partial and fragmentary remains of a one adult individual were collected in 1986 from an erosional gully on the bank of the Leon River near Fort Griffin, Bell County, Texas. The remains eroded from the bank of the Leon River near a dark and dense midden deposit from an open campsite on the flood plain.

The sex of the individual could not be determined. No known individual was identified.

This site has been identified as being within the Comanche's traditional occupation area, based on consultation with representatives of the Comanche Tribe and written historic records.

Officials of the Fort Hood Archeological Laboratory have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these human remains and the Comanche Tribe.

On November 22, 1992 the above mentioned human remains were repatriated to Phillip R. Narcomey of the Comanche Cemetery Committee on behalf of the Comanche Tribal Council.

The partial and fragmentary remains of a one adult individual were collected in 1992 from the surface of a vandalized burial site (41BL0844). The remains consist of nine bone fragments. No known individual was identified.

This site has been identified as being within the Comanche's traditional occupation area, based on consultation with representatives of the Comanche Tribe and written historic records.

Officials of the Fort Hood Archeological Laboratory have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these human remains and the Comanche Tribe.

On November 21, 1993 the above mentioned human remains were repatriated to Phillip R. Narcomey of the Comanche Cemetery Committee on behalf of the Comanche Tribal Council.

The partial and fragmentary human remains of six individuals were recovered during the summer of 1990 from a rockshelter site (41BL671) on Fort Hood, by a field school conducted by Texas A&M University. Inventory and examination of the remains established that the remains of two adult males, one adult female, one child between the ages of 6 and 10 years, one new-born child, and an individual whose age and sex could not be determined. Artifacts recovered elsewhere in the site suggested it was occupied by peoples of the Toyah and Austin Foci, acknowledged as ancestral to the Tonkawa Tribe. No known individuals were identified.

This site has been identified as being within the Tonkawa's aboriginal occupation area based on the oral traditions of the Tonkawa tribe and historic accounts of their occupations in central Texas through consultations with representatives of the Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma. Officials of the Fort Hood Archeological Laboratory have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these human remains and the Tonkawa Tribe who are generally acknowledged to have occupied the Bell County area of central Texas before the arrival of the Comanche in the eighteenth century.

On November 20, 1994 the above six human remains were repatriated to Ms. Virginia Combrink, President of the Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma on behalf of that Tribe.

Between 1984 and February 25, 1986, 78 fragments of human bone representing four individuals were collected from rockshelter site (41BL0069) on Fort Hood, by a field party from Texas A&M University. Inventory and examination of the remains established that the remains of two adult individuals, one adolescent, and one child between the ages of 6 and 10 years, sex could not be determined. Artifacts recovered elsewhere in the site suggested it was occupied by prehistoric peoples of the Toyah and Austin Foci. No known individuals were identified.

This site has been identified as being within the Tonkawa's aboriginal occupation area based on the oral traditions of the Tonkawa tribe and historic accounts of their occupations in central Texas through consultations with representatives of the Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma. Officials of the Fort Hood Archeological Laboratory have determined that, pursuant to 25U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these human remains and the Tonkawa Tribe who are generally acknowledged to have occupied the Bell County area of central Texas before the arrival of the Comanche in the eighteenth century.

During the 1978 recording of 41CV0130 on Fort Hood a single fragment of a human adult femur was recovered from surface spoil. 41CV0130 also yielded evidence of occupation during the late archaic period.

This site has been identified as being within the Tonkawa's aboriginal occupation area based on the oral traditions of the Tonkawa tribe and historic accounts of their occupations in central Texas through consultations with representatives of the Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma. Officials of the Fort Hood Archeological Laboratory have determined that, pursuant to 25U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these human remains and the Tonkawa Tribe who are generally acknowledged to have occupied the Bell County area of central Texas before the arrival of the Comanche in the eighteenth century.

This notice has been sent to officials of the Tonkawa tribe of Oklahoma, The Comanche Tribe, the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, the Caddo Tribe of Oklahoma, the Kiowa Tribe and the Apache Tribe. Representatives of any other Indian tribe which believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these human remains should contact Dr. Jack M. Jackson, Fort Hood Staff Archeologist, HQ III Corps and Fort Hood,

attn: AFZF-PW-ENV, Fort Hood, Texas 76544-5057; telephone (817) 287-7965, before September 13, 1995. Repatriation of the human remains from sites 41BL0069 and 41CV0130 may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: August 7, 1995

Francis P. McManamon

Departmental Consulting Archeologist

Chief, Archeological Assistance Division

[FR Doc. 95-19958; Filed 8-11-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-F